Unutilised food stocks lying at budge budge West Bengal

431. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the food stocks lying unutilised at the Food Corporation of India godown at Budge-Budge, West Bengal since October 30, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether these stocks have been allocated to the West Bengal Government; and

(d) if so, whether these food stocks have been damaged due to their non-utilisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The stocks could not be issued due to closure of the depot following inter-union rivalry. The dispute stands settled now and the depot has been re-opened.

(c) The stocks found fit for issue stand allotted to the West Bengal Government.

(d) Due to closure of the depot some stocks of foodgrains have slided down to lower category. These stocks can, however, be issued after due cleaning/upgrading.

Neem based insecticides

432. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Neem had been used traditionally in the country for centuries as a pesticide;

(b) whether any effective Neem product has been developed by our scientists;

(c) whether any technology of Neem Insecticides has been developed and made available under 'Lab to Land' programme of ICAR; and

(d) whether any self contained document likely to be prepared on the subject for knowledge of general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The ICAR Institutes have already issued bulletins for farmers on the utility of Neem.

Conference on neem and other insecticides of plant origin

433. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference was held on Neem and other insecticides of plant origin last year in Nairobi which was attended by Indian Scientists and if so, the recommendations made thereof; and

(b) the follow up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir. The conference was held in Nairobi in 1986 and was attended by Indian Scientists. In all, there were seven resolutions that were passed, concerning various aspects of neem tree cultivation and its usages (List of resolutions appended) *(See statement below)*.